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URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF HEMSWORTH.

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,
FOR THE
YEAR ENDED DECEMBER, 31st, 1942.

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Public Health Officers of the Hemsworth
Urban District Council.

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Medical Officer of Health, Part-time.
M. B. TAYLOR, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. (Lond.)

Sanitary Inspector, Whole-time.
S. FOX, C.R.S.I., L.S.I.A.

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URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF HEMSWORTH.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

which includes the

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

SANITARY INSPECTOR.

1 OF THE

YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1942.

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Public Health Department,
White Hall,
Hemsworth.

Mrs. Dooley and Gentlemen,

Herewith I present to you my Annual Report on the health of your district for the year 1942.

This report is drawn up in accordance with Circular 2773 of the Ministry of Health, which states that owing to disorganisation caused by the war, only interim reports are required containing essential matters. This report is, therefore, drawn up on those lines.

SECTION A.

Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

The area of the Hemsworth Urban District Council, consists as formerly of 4,163 acres, comprising the townships of Hemsworth, Kinsley and Fitzwilliam.

The Rateable Value is £52,555 and the sum represented by a penny rate equals £202. 15. 4d.

The chief industry in the area is Coal Mining and its allied trades, the remaining portion of the district being devoted to agriculture.

Extracts from Vital Statistics.

Live Births.	M.	F.	Total.
Legitimate.	141	118	259
Illegitimate.	4	5	9
Still Births.	3	3	6
(of which none were illegitimate.)			
Deaths.	66	42	108

Deaths from puerperal causes.

Puerperal sepsis.	0
Other puerperal causes.	1

Deaths of infants under 1 year of age.

	M.	F.	Total.
Legitimate.	3	4	7
Illegitimate.	-	-	-
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	8	9	17
" " Whooping Cough "	-	-	-
" " Measles. "	-	-	-
" " Diarrhorea (under 2 years)	-	1	1

There has been no unusual or excessive mortality during the year to receive or require comment.

The total number of deaths during the year from all causes was 108 and the causes of death were as follows :-

	M.	F.
Diphtheria.	-	2
Pulmonary Tuberculosis.	3	2
Other forms of Tuberculosis.	3	-
Influenza.	-	-
Cancer.	8	9
Cerebral haemorrhage and Thrombosis.	4	3
Diabetes.	-	-
Heart Disease.	6	7
Other circulatory diseases.	2	-
Appendicitis.	2	1
Bronchitis.	7	1
Pneumonia.	1	3
Other respiratory diseases.	2	-
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1	-
Other digestive diseases.	1	-
Nephritis.	1	1
Premature Birth.	1	1
Infantile diseases.	1	1
Diarrhorea.	-	1
Road Accidents.	3	1
Other violent causes.	4	-
All other causes.	13	9

Developments and changes to those services provided in the area owing to the War.

1. Laboratory facilities remain the same, but with the addition that blood which may be required for transfusion purposes in case of air raids, is forwarded to the laboratory at County Hall to be examined and grouped.
2. Ambulance facilities are adequate and consist of a public ambulance supplied by the local authority for all cases of illness or accident. An infectious diseases ambulance supplied by the Joint Hospital Committee and the ambulance provided by the local collieries for their own accident cases.
3. Nursing in the home remains the same as previously.
4. Treatment Centres and Clinics are also unchanged.
5. Hospitals - Public and Voluntary.

The Public Assistance Hospital which was evacuated on the outbreak of war, was taken into use again on the completion of the Emergency Hospital buildings.

In November, 1940, the Emergency Hospital was put into commission to receive Public Assistance patients from various bombed districts of London and the Provinces. This hospital contains 250 beds.

Voluntary Hospitals - None in area.

Immunization against Diphtheria.

From the record submitted by the Health Visitors, it is found that the following number of children have been immunized against Diphtheria during the year :-

Under 5 years.	184.
5 to 15 years.	83.

Venereal Disease.

In connection with the campaign against venereal disease, posters have been displayed in Public Lavatories and other suitable sites, warning persons against the risk of infection, and also giving Centres where treatment is available if the disease is contracted.

Scabies.

The treatment of Scabies commenced on the 23rd November, of this year, and from then until the 31st December, 63 cases had been treated and 137 treatments given. These cases are dealt with at the First Aid Post, Hemsworth, and the treatment is given by the full-time first aid staff.

Sanitary Circumstances in the Area.

These are fully discussed in the Report of the Sanitary Inspector which I endorse and recommend for your consideration.

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

This is dealt with in the Sanitary Inspector's Report.

Notifiable Diseases during the Year.

	Notified.	Admitted to Hosp.	Deaths.
Cerebro Spinal Fever.	4	4	-
Scarlet Fever.	63	63	-
Diphtheria.	29	29	2
Pneumonia.	37	-	4
Erysipelas.	11	-	-
Measles.	65	-	-
Purpurral Pyrexia.	1	1	-

TUBERCULOSIS.

Age Periods.	Resp.		Non-Resp.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year	-	-	-	-
1 year of age	-	-	-	-
1 - 5	-	1	-	1
5 - 15	-	2	2	1
15 - 25	2	4	1	1
25 - 35	2	3	-	-
35 - 45	1	1	-	-
45 - 55	2	-	-	-
55 - 65	4	1	-	-
65 and over	1	-	-	-

The number of cases on the Register at the 31st December, 1942, were as follows :-

Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
M.	F.	M.	F.
129	93	22	24

The number on the Register on December, 1941.

Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
M.	F.	M.	F.
124	85	22	22

In conclusion I should like to thank the officials of the Council, who in addition to many other duties which have been placed upon them owing to the war, have rendered to me every assistance in the carrying out of my duties.

I am, Mrs. Dooley and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

M. B. TAYLOR,

Medical Officer of Health.

URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF HEMSWORTH.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

SANITARY INSPECTOR.

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1942.

Public Health Dept.,
White Hall,
Hemsworth.

To the Members of the Hemsworth Urban
District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Mrs. Dooley and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report for the year ending 31st December, 1942. Which report is made in accordance with circular 2773 issued by the Ministry of Health.

Infectious Diseases.

The number of cases of Scarlet Fever and Diphtheria dealt with by me during 1942 was 92, and were as follows :-

Scarlet Fever.	63.
Diphtheria.	29.

Housing.

No houses have been erected in your district during the year under review and no further steps have yet been taken to deal with the Clearance Scheme which was submitted and approved prior to the outbreak of hostilities.

Sanitary Circumstances
of the Area.

Water.

The water supply has been satisfactory during the year, and at no time has there been any lack of supply, and the quality has been as hitherto of a satisfactory standard. Samples of the water are taken by the staff of the Hemsworth Joint Water Committee to ensure that the water supply is both chemically and bacteriologically pure.

Closet Accommodation.

The Closet accommodation remains unaltered so far as privies are concerned. These are in connection with houses which are most likely to be condemned or are in such a position as renders it impossible to convert into W.C.s. The situation is as follows :-

Privies.	50.
Pail and tub Closet.	6.
Waste Water Closet.	6.
Water Closet.	3038.

Public Cleansing.

No alteration has taken place in the method of public cleansing and as in former years the dry ashes are removed

each week from each house and are disposed of on the Council's rubbish tip, where the system of controlled tipping is in operation. The privies are emptied at regular intervals and here again this matter is disposed of on your tip.

Cesspools.

The cesspools in your area are regularly emptied by the Council's cesspool emptier and the contents are deposited in the Council's sewer at the nearest available point to the Hemsworth Sewage Works. The total cost of disposal of refuse, including wages for the workmen on the tip during the year was - £2752 of which amount £190 was incurred for the emptying of cesspools.

Salvage.

The collection and disposal of salvage has been carried out throughout the year and I am again indebted to the members of the W.V.S. for their ready and willing co-operation in this matter. The return for the amount of salvage collected has been made from April, 1942, to March 31st, 1943, as this coincides with the financial year and is much easier to ascertain. It is as follows :-

Summary of Income for Financial Year Ending 31st March, 1943.

	T.	C.	Q.	Lbs.	£	s.	d.
Paper.	60	3	1	-	369	17	11
Tins.	13	3	-	-	13	3	0
Bones.	2	6	2	2	9	10	0
Rags.	2	2	3	15	45	12	5
Bottles.					9	7	6
Bagging.	1	5	1	-	7	10	7
Scrap Iron.	1	9	-	-	3	16	1
Aluminium.	-	-	2	16	1	16	0
String.	-	2	2	-		14	3
Lead.	-	3	3	-	3	6	8
Rubber.	-	16	-	-	1	2	0
					£465	16	5

The total expenditure was £254. 3. 8½d., of which an amount of £207. 13. 11½d. was expended in wages, leaving a profit of £211. 12. 8½d.

Common Lodging houses.

During the year one of the two Common Lodging Houses in your area has been vacated and closed. 30 visits have been paid to these houses and the remaining one which is open is always to be found to be in a very clean and satisfactory condition.

Offensive Trades.

Periodical inspection is made to the places registered as offensive trades, and there has been no cause for complaint or report regarding these premises during the year.

Housing.

During the year 157 houses were inspected under the Housing Act, 1936, and of these 50 were found in need of further attention. These houses were dealt with in a satisfactory manner by the service of Preliminary Notice and as a consequence no Statutory Notice had to be served

under Section 9 of the Housing Act. I must again point out that the difficulty in getting repairs done increases as the period of hostilities extends, the difficulty being shortage of skilled labour and difficulty in obtaining the necessary building materials.

Inspection and Supervision of Food Supplies.

Slaughterhouses.

The Ministry of Food slaughterhouse is situated in your area, and the meat which is disposed of from this slaughterhouse is distributed in the Hemsworth Urban, Hemsworth Rural and Royston Urban Districts. The work of supervision is undertaken by myself and one of the Hemsworth Rural District Council's Sanitary Inspectors, each taking an alternative week.

The number of animals slaughtered during the year was as follows :-

Cattle.	1575.
Sheep.	6967.
Pigs.	40.
Calves.	21.

In addition to this various pigs are killed by private pig-keepers and so far as this area is concerned, these are inspected by me. The number of condemnations which took place in the whole of the year was as follows :-

Cattle.	16.
Sheep.	12.
Pigs.	4.
Calves.	1.
Goats.	1.

in addition to the following parts of cattle etc. -

135 lbs of beef from various carcasses.
79 beasts' livers.
15 beasts' heads.
7 beasts' tongues.
9 beasts' kidneys.
21 lbs of Mutton.
15 Sheeps' livers.
2 Pigs' heads.
1056 Eggs.
85 lbs Sausage.
104 lbs Bacon.
33 lbs Cheese.
5½ lbs Butter.
together with a quantity of tinned foods.

The number of visits which I personally paid under this heading was 299. The meat which is condemned is the property of the Ministry of Food and is taken away and disposed of under their jurisdiction.

Farms and Producers of Milk.

During the year 31 visits have been paid to farms where milk is produced. This number is, in my opinion, not sufficient to ensure that the Milk and Dairies Order is being strictly adhered to, but under the circumstances it is not possible for additional visits to be paid. For

the same reason no samples of milk have been taken but any complaints received have been forwarded to the West Riding County Council who are the Food and Drugs authority and samples of milk have been taken periodically by the members of their staff.

Nuisances.

The total number of inspections made under this head was 473, which resulted in 172 nuisances being found. These were dealt with by the serving of Preliminary Notice, with the exception of one, in which case Statutory Notice was served and the work carried out as a consequence.

Litigation.

During the year Court Proceedings were taken for damage done to a public air raid shelter and the prosecution was successful and a fine imposed. Proceedings were also in being but had not yet been heard at the end of the year against a milk retailer for a contravention of the Milk and Dairies Order. I herewith append a list of inspections and visits made during the year :-

To infectious disease.	130.
To inspection for nuisance.	473.
To slaughterhouses.	299.
To work in hand.	267.
To houses inspected.	177.
To scavenging and salvage	335
To meat and food inspection (other than slaughterhouses)	44.
To Farms.	31.
To Common Lodging Houses.	30.
To Offensive trades.	20.
To rubbish tip.	8.
To Bakehouses.	6.
To miscellaneous.	321.

In conclusion I wish to thank the members of the Council and my fellow officials for the assistance which they have given me during the year in the carrying out of my duties.

I remain,

Your obedient Servant,

S. Fox,

Sanitary Inspector.